

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 272236

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07

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TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 272236

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, IEA

SUBJECT: IEA: RESPONSE TO US MESSAGE ON REDUCED
DEPENDENCE OBJECTIVES

REF: STATE 264714; STATE 261560; BRUSSELS 10531

1. EMBASSY BRUSSELS: SEEK EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY TO
PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO VISCOUNT DAVIGNON, CHAIRMAN
OF IEA GOVERNING BOARD FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY KATZ.

2. BEGIN TEXT: I HAVE RECEIVED RESPONSES FROM SOME
14 IEA CAPITALS TO MY MESSAGE OUTLINING US VIEWS ON THE
REDUCED DEPENDENCE OBJECTIVES EXERCISE AND WANTED TO
SHARE WITH YOU THE GENERAL THRUST OF THE COMMENTS AND
REACTIONS. I WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE FAVORABLE TONE OF A
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PAGE 02 STATE 272236

NUMBER OF THEM, BUT MUST CANDIDLY STATE THAT SEVERAL

REACTIONS -- AS WAS TO BE EXPECTED -- PRESENT US WITH CONSIDERABLE PROBLEMS. IT APPEARS THAT WE WILL HAVE A GOOD DEAL OF WORK BEFORE US AT THE GOVERNING BOARD MEETING. I BELIEVE THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT COUNTRIES IN THIS EXERCISE WILL PROVE TO BE THE FRG, JAPAN, NORWAY, THE UK, AND CANADA.

3. THE GERMANS STATE THAT THEY SUPPORT OUR OVERALL INITIATIVE, INCLUDING THE GLOBAL TARGET FOR 1985 AND ITS ENDORSEMENT AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL. BUT THEY DRAW THE LINE AT ATTEMPTS TO QUANTIFY NUMERICALLY NATIONAL OBJECTIVES (ALTHOUGH THEY APPEAR WILLING TO COMMITMENT THEMSELVES TO "MEASURES, RATHER THAN NUMBERS). THEY FEAR A COUNTERPRODUCTIVE HAGGLING AMONG COUNTRIES OVER HOW TO DISTRIBUTE NUMERICAL COMMITMENTS. THEY URGE THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD MEETING FORMALLY LAUNCH THE REDUCED DEPENDENCE PROCESS, BUT FINESSE THE PROBLEM OF QUANTIFYING NATIONAL TARGETS.

4. THE JAPANESE, LIKEWISE, CONTINUE TO BALK AT NATIONAL GOALS -- THEY BELIEVE THAT A GLOBAL OBJECTIVE IS THE ONLY REALISTIC ONE. IT IS OUR IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, THAT IF ALL THE OTHER IEA MEMBERS GO ALONG WITH NATIONAL TARGETS, THE JAPANESE WILL NOT STAND IN THE WAY.

5. WHILE THE NORWEGIANS HAVE NO PROBLEM PER SE WITH THE CONCEPT OF REDUCED DEPENDENCE OBJECTIVES, THEY STRONGLY OBJECT TO THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE LTEA ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO -- I.E., IMPLYING THAT DECISIONS REGARDING THE FUTURE LEVEL OF NORWEGIAN OIL PRODUCTION WILL BE MADE BY THE IEA RATHER THAN THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT. NORWAY NOTES THE ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO PROJECTS NORWEGIAN PRODUCTION BY 1985 AT NEARLY DOUBLE THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT'S OWN PRODUCTION PROJECTIONS. NORWAY DID APPRECIATE, HOWEVER, THE INCLUSION OF THE ADDITIONAL STEP WHEREBY NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS COULD DECIDE HOW TO EXPRESS THEIR SHARE OF THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE GROUP TARGET. IF NORWAY ULTIMATELY DECIDES NOT TO GO ALONG, WE HAVE THE OPTION TO MOVE AHEAD WITHOUT THEM BY VIRTUE OF NORWAY'S ASSOCIATE STATUS WITH THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 272236

AGENCY. THIS MIGHT HAVE THE UNFORTUNATE EFFECT OF FOCUSING ATTENTION UPON AND CALLING INTO QUESTION THE UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS OF THE LTEA ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO; HOWEVER.

6. WHILE WE ANTICIPATED UK HESITATION ALONG THE LINES OF NORWAY REGARDING UK NORTH SEA OIL AND THE ADOPTION OF FIRM NATIONAL COMMITMENTS, THIS REACTION HAS BEEN

LESS NEGATIVE THAN MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED. THEY HAVE ASSURED US THEY WILL BE "FORTHCOMING" AT THE GOVERNING BOARD MEETING AND HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR CONFIDENCE IN FINDING A SUITABLE FORMULA FOR MAKING HEADWAY. OTHER RESPONSES CAN BE CATEGORIZED AS FOLLOWS:

7. STRONG SUPPORT: CANADA, WHICH HAS EXPRESSED "UNQUALIFIED SUPPORT" FOR OUR POSITION; DENMARK, WHICH GENERALLY AGREES WITH THE US, BUT CALLS FOR A QUALITATIVE AS WELL AS QUANTITATIVE YARDSTICK MEASURE OF BURDEN SHARING AND A STRENGTHENED REVIEW PROCESS; NEW ZEALAND, WHICH IS IN OVERALL AGREEMENT, BUT URGES ADOPTION OF LANGUAGE WHICH WILL SKIRT THE ISSUE OF SACRIFICE OF NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY.

8. QUALIFIED SUPPORT: ITALY, WHICH INFORMED US IT WOULD HAVE LITTLE DIFFICULTY IN SUPPORTING THE MAJOR LINES AND POLICIES SET OUT IN MY MESSAGE, BUT FEELS THAT THE ROLE OF JOINT PROGRAMS TO DEVELOP NEW SUPPLIES SHOULD BE GIVEN GREATER EMPHASIS; SPAIN, WHICH SUPPORTS GLOBAL IEA GOALS, BUT IS OPPOSED TO QUANTIFYING SPECIFIC NATIONAL COMMITMENTS, ALTHOUGH SUGGESTING THAT IT MIGHT BE WILLING TO ACCEPT NATIONAL TARGETS IF THE OBLIGATION TO ACHIEVE THEM WAS NOT FIRM; SWITZERLAND, WHICH ASSURED US IT WILL WORK TO ACHIEVE A POSITIVE CLIMATE FOR ACHIEVING THE REDUCED DEPENDENCE OBJECTIVES, WHILE NOTING, HOWEVER, THAT ITS FEDERAL STRUCTURE DOES NOT GIVE THE GOVERNMENT TEETH TO MEET OR ENFORCE SPECIFIC NATIONAL TARGETS.

9. AUSTRIA, THE EC, GREECE, SWEDEN AND TURKEY HAVE INFORMED US THAT THEY ARE NOT YET IN A POSITION TO RESPOND.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 STATE 272236

10. SEVERAL OF THE RESPONDING COUNTRIES NOTED THAT THEIR COMMENTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS TENTATIVE, PENDING CONSULTATION WITH OTHER INTERESTED MINISTRIES. REPORTS THAT WE HAVE RECEIVED SUBSEQUENTLY FROM THE NOVEMBER 2-3 SLT MEETING WOULD SUGGEST SOME MORE FORTHCOMING -- AND IN SOME CASES MORE FAVORABLE - POSITIONS, WHICH I FIND ENCOURAGING. I LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH YOU IN PARIS. END TEXT. KISSINGER

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